

Law Student Opportunities

Civil Law Division

Government Law Section

Sacramento and Los Angeles



The Civil Law Division, Government Law Section (GLS), provides unique opportunities for law students interested in pursuing careers in California state public service.

GLS attorneys provide legal advice and litigation representation to California's elected, constitutional officers (including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Controller, Treasurer, and Secretary of State) and also to many important state agencies and departments, such as the California state courts and the Department of Finance. Consequently, GLS offers exciting opportunities for involvement with cutting-edge legal issues in state government, including: constitutional law (First Amendment, Second Amendment, federalism, etc.); election law, including the law related to ballot initiatives; the state budget and public finance; political reform; and open-government law.

GLS attorneys appear in state and federal courts at both the trial and appellate levels, including the California Supreme Court and the U.S. Supreme Court. They also serve as counsel to the Treasurer and various state agencies with regard to the issuance of bonds. And they prepare titles, summaries, and labels for proposed ballot initiative petitions and ballot initiatives. GLS often handles the most unusual and hard-to-classify legal matters that arise in state government.

Law students selected as summer interns may assist GLS attorneys with: all aspects of cases in civil litigation, including drafting pleadings, motions, discovery requests and responses, and appellate briefs; fact and legal research and analysis; public-finance transactions; and similar or related projects. Interns may have opportunities to accompany attorneys to and/or assist them with depositions and court appearances, including court oral arguments.

Current first- or second-year law students interested in GLS are encouraged to apply for summer internships. Applicants must have excellent legal research, writing, oral communication, and analytical skills, and should have a demonstrated interest in a public-service career. Applicants should have completed law-school classes in civil procedure, constitutional law, and legal research and writing. Finance, appellate advocacy, and trial advocacy classes may also be helpful, but are not required. The positions are full-time and unpaid. A background check, including fingerprinting, is required. Current openings are for summer 2012 in either Sacramento or Los Angeles.

How to Apply:

A student interested in applying for one of these positions should submit a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and most recent law school transcript (and, optionally, up to three letters of recommendation or a list of up to three professional references) to:

In Sacramento:

Tad T. Egawa
Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
California Department of Justice
1300 "I" Street
Sacramento, California 95814

In Los Angeles:

Jonathan M. Eisenberg
Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
California Department of Justice
300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702
Los Angeles, California 90013
jonathan.eisenberg@doj.ca.gov